CLAIMS:

1. A method for grouping items in a grocery store containing a plurality of existing products, the method comprising:

categorizing each said existing product by type;

assigning shelf space to each said existing product, wherein said assigning includes placing each said existing product in close geographic proximity to another said existing product with the same type; and

rearranging the shelf space in the grocery store responsive to said assigning.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a new product;

categorizing said new product by said type; and

assigning shelf space to said new product, wherein said assigning shelf space to said new product includes placing said new product in close geographic proximity to a said existing product with the same type.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein said close geographic proximity includes the same side of the same aisle.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein said close geographic proximity includes both sides of the same aisle.

5. The method of claim 2 wherein said new product includes an individually packaged item.

6. The method of claim 2 wherein said new product includes a fresh produce item.

7. The method of claim 2 wherein said new product includes a bulk item.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein said shelf space includes a refrigeration unit.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said shelf space includes a room temperature unit.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein said shelf space includes a freezer unit.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein said shelf space includes a heating unit.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein said shelf space includes one or more of a refrigeration unit, a room temperature unit, a freezer unit and a heating unit.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein said close geographic proximity includes either side of the same aisle.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein said close geographic proximity includes the same side of the same aisle.

15. The method of claim 1 wherein said existing product includes an individually packaged item.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein said existing product includes a fresh produce item.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein said existing product includes a bulk item.

18. A method for grouping items in a grocery store, the method comprising:
receiving a store layout including existing products from a requestor;
categorizing each said existing product by type;

assigning shelf space to each said existing product, wherein said assigning includes placing each said existing product in close geographic proximity to another said existing product with the same type;

updating said store layout responsive to said assigning; and

transmitting said store layout to said requestor in response to said updating.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein said shelf space includes one or more of a refrigeration unit, a room temperature unit, a freezer unit and a heating unit.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a new product;

categorizing said new product by said type; and

assigning shelf space to said new product, wherein said assigning shelf space to said new product includes placing said new product in close geographic proximity to a said existing product with the same type.

21. A system for grouping items in a grocery store, the system comprising:

a network;

a user system in communication with said network; and

a host system in communication with said network, said host system including layout application software to implement a method comprising:

receiving a store layout including existing products from a requestor located on a user system, said receiving via said network;

categorizing each said existing product by type;

assigning shelf space to each said existing product, wherein said assigning includes placing each said existing product in close geographic proximity to another said existing product with the same type;

updating said store layout responsive to said assigning; and

transmitting said store layout via said network to said requestor in response to said updating.

22. The system of claim 21 further comprising a storage device in communication with said network wherein said store layout is located on said storage device.

23. The system of claim 21 wherein said network is the Internet.

24. The system of claim 21 wherein said network in an intranet.

25. The system of claim 21 wherein said user system is located in the same geographic location as said host system.

26. The system of claim 25 wherein said user system and said host system communicate directly.

27. The system of claim 21 wherein said user system is located in a different geographic location than said host system.

28. A computer program product for grouping items in a grocery store, the computer program product comprising:

a storage medium readable by a processing circuit and storing instructions for execution by the processing circuit for performing a method comprising:

receiving a store layout including existing products from a requestor;

categorizing each said existing product by type;

assigning shelf space to each said existing product, wherein said assigning includes placing each said existing product in close geographic proximity to another said existing product with the same type;

updating said store layout responsive to said assigning; and

transmitting said store layout to said requestor in response to said updating.